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MONTANA FINANCIAL AID HANDBOOK 1991

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Montana Career Information System

The Montana Career Information System provides information about occupations, programs of study, and schools to students, job seekers, and career-changers in Montana. For more information, contact Anne Wolfinger, Director, Montana Career Information System, 1412½ Eighth Avenue, Helena, Montana, 59620, (406)444-1444.

Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program

The Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program (MGSLP) administers the federal student loan program in Montana. MGSLP works directly with approximately 190 lenders and 40 postsecondary institutions in Montana to provide low interest loans to students and their parents. MGSLP's goal is to make postsecondary education available to every Montana student who desires it. To date, the agency has guaranteed over $200 million in loans. For more information, contact Customer Assistance at Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program, 33 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Montana, 59620, (406)444-6594 or (800)537-7508.

Acknowledgments

This publication is the result of the efforts of the following individuals and agencies:

Anne Wolfinger, Director; Mary Courtis; Leslie Ford; Danielle Renes; and Greg Graham; Montana Career Information System.

Bill Lannan and Arlene Hannawalt, Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program.

Arthur Hunthausen, Director of Financial Aid at Carroll College and Sandy Merdinger, Director of Financial Aid at Helena Vo-Tech Center, who carefully reviewed the handbook.

MONTANA FINANCIAL AID HANDBOOK

1991

Produced and distributed jointly by

Montana Career Information System
and
Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program

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Introduction

A growing number of students are pursuing education after high school, and college costs continue to rise faster than personal incomes. Consequently, students and their families face a greater challenge paying for college and vocational training. Students' earnings, family contributions, public financing for higher education, and public financial aid programs pay most of the expenses. However, scholarships and funds from special aid programs provided by local and national organizations also help many individuals enjoy the benefits of higher education.

The Montana Financial Aid Handbook is designed to help students and parents understand the types of financial aid available in Montana, as well as how to apply for aid. This handbook can help you estimate the costs of education and to work your way through the maze of applications, deadlines, and eligibility requirements. *The Montana Financial Aid Handbook* is the most comprehensive and widely-used financial aid resource in Montana.

Universities, most colleges, and many vocational schools in Montana provide financial aid to students who need help paying for their schooling. This handbook will help you learn about financial aid resources at Montana schools. When you apply for financial aid, the school will determine an amount you and your family should provide. If there is a difference between what your family is expected to contribute and the actual cost for attending the school, the school will attempt to make up the difference with financial aid. The difference between the expected family contribution and actual costs is called financial need.

The amount of aid you get is based on your financial need, and on the kinds of aid available at the school you attend. Most students who receive aid get a combination of grants, loans, and work-study put together in a financial aid package. The package is put together by the financial aid office at the school or college you plan to attend using the information you provide.

You must apply for financial aid to get it. Application for aid is separate from application for admission. Financial aid applications are available from most high school counseling offices and college financial aid offices. You may also want to consult a school counselor or other people for additional financial aid information. A list of Montana Financial Aid Directors and Tribal Education Specialists is provided on pages 32 and 33. The purpose of this handbook is to serve as a guide for understanding financial aid programs and determining financial aid requirements. Because financial aid programs may change at any time, it is best to request current financial aid information directly from the school you want to attend.

Additional information about national and state scholarships is available in the Montana CIS publication "FINANCIAL AID 1990-91."

Educational Costs and Financial Aid

Cost of Education in Montana

Financial planning begins with an estimate of the expenses a student will have. Educational and living costs vary from one college, university or vocational school to another. Most schools have developed student budgets that estimate the cost of tuition, fees, books, supplies, room and board, transportation, and incidental and personal expenses. Currently, costs for tuition and fees vary from $876 to $1,311 at Montana two-year schools, and from $865 to $6,174 at four-year schools. Fees include charges for items such as health services and incidental fees. Schools also estimate that students spend between $1,400 and $3,150 per year for books, transportation and personal expenses. For more specific information and estimates, you should contact the school you plan to attend for a copy of the student expenses budget used by the Financial Aid office.

College Costs Worksheet

This worksheet can be used to help you estimate the costs of attending the Montana school of your choice. Find the schools that you might attend in the tables. Write down the estimated tuition and other costs in the appropriate places. Finally, add all these figures together to get a total. This will enable you to compare the approximate costs of going to different schools.

College Costs Worksheet

School Name	_____	_____	_____
Application Fee	$_____	$_____	$_____
Tuition and Fees	_____	_____	_____
Room and Board (residence hall, apartment, or commute from home)	_____	_____	_____
Books and Supplies	_____	_____	_____
Transportation	_____	_____	_____
Personal Expenses	_____	_____	_____
Estimated Total Cost	========	========	========

Typical Range of Costs for a Nine Month Period

The figures in the following two tables are estimates and not actual costs. Your personal, travel, medical, and other miscellaneous expenses are not included. Be sure to budget for all expenses when determining the cost of your education.

Two-Year Schools

School	Tuition & Fees	Application Fee	Room & Board: Dorm	Room & Board: Apartment	Books & Supplies
Billings Vo-Tech	$876	$10	NA	$4,050	$600
Blackfeet Community College—Browning	1,050	15	NA	2,880	500
Butte Vo-Tech	876	10	NA	3,000	450
Dawson Community College—Glendive	774	10	2,200	3,115	450
Dull Knife Community College—Lame Deer	615	10	2,300	2,300	420
Flathead Community College—Kalispell	882	none	NA	2,970	300
Ft. Belknap Community College—Harlem	1,311	10	NA	3,918	400
Ft. Peck Community College—Poplar	990	15	NA	2,200	400
Great Falls Vo-Tech	876	10	NA	3,150	varies
Helena Vo-Tech	876	10	NA	4,205	350
Little Big Horn College—Crow Agency	20*	15	NA	3,900	varies
Miles Community College—Miles City	756	10	NA	3,645	495
Missoula Vo Tech	876	10	2,859	4,950‡	300
Salish Kootenai College—Pablo	434	none	NA	2,025	200
Stone Child Community College—Box Elder	1,250	10	NA	2,700	300

* per credit
NA on campus housing not available
‡ includes transportation and personal expenses

Four-Year Schools

School	Tuition & Fees	Application Fee	Room & Board (on campus)	Books & Supplies
Carroll College—Helena	$6,174	$20	$3,026	$350
College of Great Falls—Great Falls*	3,058	20	NA	500
Eastern Montana College—Billings	1,308	20	3,000	525
Montana College of Mineral Science & Technology—Butte*	1,321	20	3,000	400
Montana State University—Bozeman	1,766	20	2,786	450
Mountain States Baptist College—Great Falls*	2,085	25	NA	375
Northern Montana College—Havre	1,282	20	3,100	495
Rocky Mountain College—Billings*	6,172	15	3,095	450
University of Montana—Missoula	1,590	20	2,786	550
Western Montana College of the University of Montana—Dillon*	174	20	2,836	450
Yellowstone Baptist College—Billings*	865	10	1,800	200

NA on campus housing not available
* semester system

Determining What You Will Pay

The primary responsibility for meeting educational costs lies with the student and his or her family. Financial aid is intended to *supplement*, not replace, the money contributed by the student and his or her family to meet the costs of higher education.

Almost all schools, government agencies, and special programs expect students and their families to contribute a sum based upon total family income, expenses, debts and accumulated assets (such as a savings account or a home). This sum is called the *Estimated Family Contribution* (EFC).

Students who come from a family of three, and whose parents' income is between $24,000 and $40,000 a year, can expect their Estimated Family Contribution to be between $1,386 and $5,090. For a family of four in the same tax bracket, the contribution ranges from $827 to $3,166, and from $302 to $3,166 for a family of five. Schools also expect students to contribute a minimum of $700 to $900 of their own money each year towards their education. However, since each student's situation is unique, these figures should only be used as a guide to estimate education costs. Information provided on the financial aid application form is used by the form processors to determine the EFC for each student.

The desire of students or their parents to claim financial independence for the student does not necessarily release the parents from the responsibility of providing financial assistance for educational costs. The definition below is consistent with financial aid practices and applies to all federal and state aid programs. Students claiming financial independence must be able to demonstrate that they fall into one of the following categories.

1. Individuals at least 24 years old by December 31 of the award year
2. Orphans or wards of the court
3. Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States
4. Individuals with legal dependents other than spouses
5. Graduate or professional students who will not be claimed as income tax exemptions by their parents or guardians for the first calendar year of the award year (e.g., calendar year 1990 for award year 1990-91)
6. Married persons who will not be claimed as income tax exemptions by their parents or guardians for the first calendar year of the award year
7. Single persons with no dependents who were not claimed as dependents by their parents or guardian for the two calender years preceding the award year and who demonstrate self-sufficiency for those two years as evidenced by total resources of at least $4,000 in each of those years

Why Financial Aid Award Amounts Differ from School to School

Costs differ greatly from one type of school to another, and financial aid awards reflect these differing costs. Other factors that influence the award amount include:

- The amount of money a school has available to award. Students who apply late in the year may be qualified for aid, but may not receive any because all funds were committed to students who applied earlier.
- School policies governing awards differ from school to school.

Additionally, aid amounts for students from the same family can vary at the same school due to:

- The student's own resources (for example, cash, savings, or employment).
- The student's class standing (for example, upper-class students may be expected to contribute a greater amount toward their education through summer employment savings).

You should not eliminate a school from consideration because it has higher expenses than another. Schools with higher costs generally have more financial aid to offer applicants than lower-cost schools.

Application and Award Procedures

In order to receive financial aid, you must apply for it. This process involves filling out an official application form which will be used to do a needs analysis. The most common application forms are the Financial Aid Form (FAF), the SingleFile Form (SFF), the Family Financial Statement (FFS), and the Application for Federal Student Aid (AFSA). To find out which of these forms a school prefers, refer to the following table or contact their Financial Aid office directly. Fill out the correct form and mail it to the processing center listed in the application instructions.

Most postsecondary schools require that all undergraduate financial aid applicants file for Pell Grants. Before a school can consider your application for any type of financial aid, other than private scholarships, your eligibility for a Pell Grant must be determined. Even if you are not eligible for a Pell Grant you may be eligible for other grants, loans, and scholarships. Indicate in the appropriate section of the FAF, SFF, FFS, or AFSA that you want to be considered for a Pell Grant. Many schools will not consider you for other types of aid unless you have proof of being turned down for a Pell Grant. You must also be enrolled at least half-time or accepted in a degree or certificate program to receive benefits from the Stafford Student Loan (Stafford), Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS), and Supplemental Loans for Students (SLS) programs.

You will receive the results of the financial aid form (need analysis) from the processor in approximately three weeks. You must send the information to the Financial Aid office at the school you plan to attend before the Financial Aid Officer can finalize your award.

The Financial Aid office at a school you apply to may ask you to submit additional documents or information (such as financial aid transfer records, tax information, and proof of residency). Give immediate attention to these requests. Failure to do so may jeopardize your opportunity to receive financial aid.

Filing Dates and Preferred Forms for Montana Schools

These deadlines for financial aid applications are the latest possible dates given by the schools. The table below also lists the financial aid application form preferred by each school, if they have a preference. Financial Aid Directors recommend that you submit your FAF, SFF, FFS, or AFSA as soon as possible after January 1st. It will take at least 4-6 weeks to process your FAF, SFF, FFS or AFSA.

Most schools that do not set a deadline operate on a first-come, first-served basis. Thus, it is particularly important that these schools get your application as early as possible.

Filing Dates for Montana Schools

SCHOOL	1991 DEADLINE	FORM
Billings Vocational Technical Center	March 1	FFS
Blackfeet Community College	June 1	AFSA
Butte Vocational Technical Center	April 1	FFS
Carroll College	March 15	FAF
College of Great Falls	April 1	SFF
Dawson Community College	March 1	FAF
Dull Knife Memorial College	No deadline	AFSA
Eastern Montana College	March 1	FAF
Flathead Valley Community College	May 1	FAF
Fort Belknap College	No deadline	AFSA
Fort Peck Community College	September 4	AFSA
Great Falls Vocational Technical Center	No deadline	FFS
Helena Vocational Technical Center	No deadline	FFS
Little Big Horn College	March 1	AFSA
Miles Community College	March 1	FAF
Missoula Vocational Technical Center	May 1	FFS
Montana College of Mineral Science & Technology	April 1	AFSA
Montana State University	March 1	AFSA
Mountain States Baptist College	No deadline	
Northern Montana College	No deadline	AFSA
Private Trade Schools	Deadline varies	
Rocky Mountain College	April 1	FAF
Salish Kootenai College	April 15	AFSA
Stone Child Community College	No deadline	AFSA
University of Montana	March 1	FAF
Western Montana College of the University of Montana	March 1	FAF
Yellowstone Baptist College	August 1	

Steps in Getting Financial Aid

Use the following process to apply for financial aid. The time frame is for a student entering school fall term.

The fall before you will enter school:

1. Select schools that will fulfill your educational and occupational goals. To learn about Montana schools offering various programs of study and training, consult the Montana Career Information System (CIS). Contact your school counselor or local Job Service Office to find out who subscribes to Montana CIS.

2. Register with the Selective Service if you are male, at least 18 years old, born after December 31, 1959, and are not a current member of the active armed forces. Lists of federal student aid applicants are compared with selective service records during the application process. You may not receive any federal student aid if your registration status is in question.

3. Write to the Admissions Office of each school in which you are interested. Ask about financial aid possibilities, which forms to use, and tests required for entry. (You must make two applications, one for admission to the school, another for financial aid.)

4. Obtain a Financial Aid Form (FAF), SingleFile Form (SFF), Family Financial Statement (FFS) or Application for Federal Student Aid (AFSA) from a high school counselor or the Financial Aid office at any Montana university, college, or vocational school. Be sure you use the form required by the school you plan to attend. Fees for processing applications are shown below.

   AFSA: Free.
   FAF: $ 8.75 plus $ 6.75 for each additional form.
   FFS: $ 5.50 plus $ 3.50 or $3.00 for each additional form.
   SFF: Free.

5. Estimate the cost of attending each school you have chosen using the college catalog and information from the Montana Career Information System (CIS). See the worksheet on page 8.

6. Compile family financial information needed to fill out the FAF, SFF, FFS or AFSA. This includes income tax information for the preceding year, figures on non-taxable income and information on assets. The financial information required is similar to the information needed when applying for a loan.

As soon as possible after January 1:

7. Fill out the FAF, SFF, FFS, or AFSA forms accurately and completely. Indicate that you want the information sent to the Pell Grant processor. List the schools you want to attend.

   If you apply early you will have a better chance of receiving financial aid. Always use your full legal name and Social Security number. Photocopy the completed FAF, SFF, FFS or AFSA for your records just in case the original is lost.

8. Send the financial aid application for processing. Send the FAF and the FAF supplement to:

   College Scholarship Service
   P.O. Box 6358
   Princeton, NJ 08541

   The SingleFile Form should be submitted to:

   United Student Aid Funds
   P.O. Box 6130
   Indianapolis, IN 46206-6130

The FFS should be submitted to:

ACT Student Need
Analysis Service
Box 1000
Iowa City, IA 52243

The AFSA should be submitted to:

Federal Student Aid Programs
P.O. Box 4101
Iowa City, IA 52244

In the spring:

9. If you applied for a Pell Grant you will be sent a Student Aid Report (SAR) from the processor within four to six weeks. If you are eligible, submit the SAR directly to the Financial Aid office at the school you plan to attend. If you are not eligible, contact the Financial Aid office.

10. Allow 3-6 weeks for processing your financial aid application. The processing center will mail the official results of the Financial Aid Form (need analysis form) to you. You MUST mail or take the results to the Financial Aid office of the school you decide to attend. If you have special circumstances (such as unusual medical bills or changes in your family membership since submitting your application) explain these in a cover letter and mail it along with the results to the school.

11. The schools will each tell you whether they will give you financial aid. They also will explain how much grant, loan or work-study money they can offer to you.

12. Tell each school your plans in writing—whether you accept their financial aid package or not.

Beginning with the summer term:

13. Aid awarded for the academic year must be used during that period. Aid may be available during the summer term. Ask your aid officer well in advance of summer enrollment if summer aid is available at your school. Some schools may have a separate summer application process, so be sure to check with the aid office.

Each January, if you are planning to be in school the following academic year:

14. Apply for financial aid again. You MUST reapply each academic year.

NOTE: Students entering school during other times also need to complete the needs analysis form as soon as possible after January 1 of the year they are entering school. Check with the Financial Aid office to obtain deadlines. Apply early; mid-year funds may be limited.

Receipt of Financial Aid Awards

It is your responsibility to notify the Financial Aid office if your financial status improves due to the receipt of scholarships or other types of additional resources. The school may then adjust your award to reflect the difference in your calculated financial need. If you fail to report additional resources and are "over-awarded" aid, the school may bill you for the extra funds later.

Offers of financial assistance from the school are based on receipt of funds from all funding sources. Unfortunately, schools may have to decrease awards over the course of the academic year for a variety of reasons, depending on the availability of funds. Although it is unlikely they will do so, the Financial Aid Officers reserve the right to revise any offer of financial aid at any time during the academic year.

Your financial aid award will be paid out to you in equal installments by check, voucher, or similar form for each quarter or semester you attend. The school will let you know how your

award will be given to you. If you receive aid through the College Work-Study program, you need to check with the Financial Aid office for specific guidelines pertaining to employment procedures, payment rates and schedules.

All funds awarded by the school are to be used solely for educational expenses such as tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, required clothing, and essential incidental items. Use of these funds for other purposes is a violation of the United States Criminal Code and is punishable by a fine of not more than $10,000 or imprisonment for not more than five years or both.

Denial and Negotiation of Awards

Some schools deny financial aid after a review of a family's financial circumstances shows that the student or family should have sufficient resources to pay for the student's education. This evaluation is made in accordance with institutional and federal rules.

Denial of aid is based on financial and other data submitted by you or your parents. If there is a significant change in your family's financial circumstances (for example, if unexpected costs arise) contact the Financial Aid office to discuss renegotiating the award.

If you have questions regarding the denial or amount of a financial aid award, contact the Financial Aid office. If possible, you should make an appointment to meet with the Financial Aid Director in person. Otherwise, write or call the Director.

When discussing the denial or renegotiation of a financial aid award, present logical reasons for why you deserve a review. Back up your argument with receipts and other documents (for example, unemployment notices or receipts for unexpected costs).

If you talk with a Financial Aid Director in person or on the phone, follow up by writing the Director a confirmation letter. In the letter, state your understanding of what was resolved during the discussion and the actions that will be taken in the future.

If the school is unable to provide financial assistance, you and your parents should investigate other public and private sources of aid.

A decision to deny financial aid pertains only to the academic year for which you applied. Since criteria for eligibility change from year to year, it is important that you submit a new financial aid application each academic year.

Transfer of Financial Aid

Pell Grants are the only financial aid awards made by schools which are transferable from one school to another. A duplicate eligibility report must be obtained from the processor by calling:

Public Inquiry Contractor
1-800-777-3537

Transfer students should contact the Financial Aid office at their new school regarding continued financial assistance from other programs.

Transfer students may have copies of their FAF, SFF, FFS or AFSA sent to their new school by submitting a written request to the Financial Aid office of their previous school. Be sure to include your name, address, Social Security number, and date of birth in all correspondence.

All transfer students must arrange to have a Financial Aid Transfer Record sent from all previous schools to the Financial Aid office of the school they plan to attend.

Your Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students applying for financial aid have the responsibility to know:

- the description of all aid programs which are available, including the procedures, forms, and deadlines for applying for such aid;
- the standards used by the school in selecting student aid recipients;
- how and when you will receive your financial aid;
- how to request a reconsideration of your financial aid package if you believe a mistake has been made;
- what you must do to continue eligibility for aid programs and the academic standards you must meet;
- the terms and expected repayment schedules for any loans you have;
- what the cost of attending the school is and what its policy is for refunds to students who drop out;
- about the programs, instructional facilities, and faculty at the school; and
- what special facilities and services are available to the handicapped.

As a student receiving financial aid from any Montana college, university, or vocational center, you are responsible for notifying the school's Financial Aid office and your lending institution (if you have a student loan) in writing, about the following:

- changes in the number of credit hours for which you are enrolled;
- changes in name, address, or telephone number;
- changes in financial status; and
- withdrawal from school.

It is also your responsibility to:

- review and consider all information about the school's programs before enrollment;
- read and understand all forms that you file, and keep copies of them;
- complete all application forms accurately and submit them on time to the right place;
- return all additional documentation, corrections, and new information requested promptly;
- accept responsibility for all agreements signed;
- perform the work that is agreed upon in accepting a College Work-Study award; and
- know and comply with the school's refund and repayment procedures.

You should also be aware that:

- you are responsible for seeing that all funds are used for educational purposes only;
- if you withdraw from school during a term you may be responsible for repayment of all or a portion of any financial aid received for that term;
- you must make satisfactory progress in your program of study as defined by the school you are attending; and
- if you default on a school loan, the default will be reported to a credit bureau and may affect future credit. In addition, you will lose your eligibility for Federal Student Aid.

Contact the school you plan to attend if you have questions regarding your rights and responsibilities, the specific criteria concerning academic progress and good standing, or other policies.

What if the Financial Aid You Are Awarded Is Not Enough?

Sometimes the school you choose cannot give as much financial help as you need. This situation may occur if you apply for admission late in the year when fewer funds are available. Sometimes parents find they can not come up with the money the college expects them to contribute. If so, there are still several options.

Ask the School if they offer alternative sources for financing your education. The school might have a tuition budgeting plan that will let you spread out payments, or a loan program designed for students who do not qualify for federal loans. Part-time jobs and tutoring opportunities at schools may also help you gain the funds needed to attend.

Check with banks and other financial institutions for information on special programs for families who wish to save or borrow for school expenses. You or your parents may be able to qualify.

Examine your personal resources to see if there is a way to reduce your estimated expenses or save more. You may want to take a full-time rather than a part-time summer job, sell some possessions, ask other relatives for a loan, or convince your parents to convert some of their assets to cash. You might save more by living at home and commuting to school. It may be possible to attend a less expensive school now and transfer to another school later.

Whatever you do don't hesitate to ask for advice. The school that offers you admission will want to help you arrange financing so you can attend. Remember that even if you do not receive aid one year, you may be eligible the following year if your economic situation changes or more funds become available at the school.

Financial Aid Programs

Grants

The terms grants and scholarships are used interchangeably. You are not required to pay back grant or scholarship money received. Most federal and state grants are based on financial need. The Federal Student Aid Information Center can answer questions about federal aid programs. Call 1-800-333-INFO between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Eastern time.

Pell Grants

Pell Grants are awarded directly by the federal government. Only undergraduate students enrolled at least half-time may receive Pell Grants. If you want to apply for a Pell Grant and other kinds of financial aid, fill out a Financial Aid Form (FAF), SingleFile Form (SFF) or Family Financial Statement (FFS). If you want to apply only for a Pell Grant, fill out an Application for Federal Student Aid (AFSA). Pell Grants range from $200 to $2,400, depending on your need and the costs of the school you attend. Apply as soon as possible after January 1.

Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG)

These grants are awarded by participating schools and colleges using money provided by the federal government. Only undergraduate students with exceptional need, enrolled at least half-time may receive SEOG grants. You must be eligible for a Pell Grant to be eligible for this program. Apply for an SEOG by filling out a FAF, SFF, FFS, or AFSA and listing the schools you might attend. You can get up to $4,000 a year,

depending on your need and on available money at the school. Apply as soon as possible after January 1.

Institutional Grants

Many schools provide grants from their own resources or from money given to the school by private donors. Apply through the Financial Aid office at the school you want to attend. Institutional grants and scholarships are awarded through many areas within the schools, such as the Admissions Office and academic departments. Be sure to contact these areas as well.

State Grants

Montana state government provides some financial aid through State Student Incentive Grants (SSIG). SSIG awards are based on financial need and pay up to $900. To be eligible you must be a Montana resident, a full-time undergraduate, and attend an eligible institution. Other awards, such as tuition waivers, based upon academic ability or financial need are funded by Montana state government. For more information, contact the Financial Aid office of the school you plan to attend. In Montana, Native American students can apply for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Tribal grants. To be eligible for a BIA or Tribal grant, you must be recognized as being American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut by the federal government and demonstrate financial need. Contact your Tribal Education Specialist for more information (see pages 32 and 33 for a list of addresses).

Loans

Loans are monetary assistance given to the student that require repayment (usually after leaving school). Education loans usually have lower interest rates than regular bank loans.

For answers to general questions about federal loans and programs write or call the Financial Aid office at the school you plan to attend. You can also contact the Customer Assistant, Guaranteed Student Loan Programs, Montana University System, 33 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59620, (406)444-6594 or 1-800-537-7508.

Perkins Loans

These loans are made by schools and colleges, using money provided by the federal government and money repaid by students who borrowed in prior years. Loan amounts are based on financial need and on available money at the school you attend.

You can get an application form from a high school counselor or college Financial Aid office. Apply as soon as possible after January 1. No interest is charged while you remain a student. Nine months after you leave school, you begin paying at an interest rate of five percent per year. You have up to ten years to repay the loan with payments of at least $30 per month. Loans can be cancelled or deferred under special circumstances. Your school's Financial Aid office can tell you about the cancellation and deferment policies.

Stafford Loans (formerly called Guaranteed Student Loan)

Stafford Loans are made by banks, savings and loan associations, credit unions, and other commercial lending institutions. Loans are based on financial need. You can get application forms from schools, but you apply directly to the lender. You will have to pay a 3% insurance or guarantee fee before you get a loan. No interest is charged while you remain a student, but a five percent "origination fee" will be deducted from your loan.

For most students, repayment begins six months after you graduate, withdraw, or drop below half-time. For loans received after July 1, 1988 the interest rate is eight percent per year for the first four years, then it changes to ten percent for the remaining six years. Students who borrowed before that date may have loans at 7%, 8%, or 9%, and new loans to those students will be at the same interest rate as their

outstanding loans. You have up to ten years to repay the loan with payments of at least $50 per month.

Depending on need, you may borrow up to:

$2,625 a year, for the first two years of school;

$4,000 a year, if you have reached third year status;

$7,500 a year, for graduate students.

The maximum you may borrow as an undergraduate is $17,250. The total you may borrow for both undergraduate and graduate school combined is $54,750. Multiple disbursements through the academic year are required when you receive a loan. Disbursements are delayed for first time borrowers. You cannot borrow more than the cost of education minus any other financial aid you receive. For more information, contact your school's Financial Aid office. For information, write or call the Customer Assistant, Guaranteed Student Loan Programs, Montana University System, 33 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59620; (406)444-6594 or 1-800-537-7508.

Institutional Loans

Many schools provide loans from their own resources (or from money given to the school by private donors). Apply for these programs through the Financial Aid office at the institution you plan to attend.

Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS loans) and Supplemental Loans for Students (SLS loans)

PLUS loans are made by banks and credit unions to parents of dependent students. Parents may borrow up to $4,000 per year for each son or daughter, not to exceed a total of $20,000 for each child. SLS loans of up to $4,000 per year are made to students. On SLS loans multiple disbursements through the academic year are required and disbursements for first time borrowers are delayed. Application forms are available at the schools, but parents and students apply directly to the lender. Within sixty days after the loan is made, you begin repayment at an interest rate determined each year. The annual interest rate is not to exceed 12%. Deferment of payments is available in some specific situations. For more information, contact your school's Financial Aid office.

Health Professions Loans

The **Health Education Assistance Loan (HEAL)** program is for students of dentistry, medicine, optometry, osteopathy, podiatry, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, chiropractic, public health, clinical psychology, or health administration. HEAL loans may be up to $20,000 per year, depending on funds available. Interest rates are variable. For more information, contact your school's Financial Aid office.

The **Health Professions Student Loan (HPSL)** program is for students of dentistry, medicine, optometry, osteopathy, podiatry, or veterinary medicine. These loans are available only to students whose schools have an agreement with the U.S. Department of Education to participate in the loan program. HPSL loans are given for full tuition costs, plus $2,500, or the amount of your financial need, whichever is less. Currently, the interest rate is 5%. For more information, contact your school's Financial Aid office.

A **Nursing Student Loan Program (NSLP)** is available through participating schools of professional nursing. The loans can apply to part-time or full-time schooling. These loans may be as high as $2,500 per year, but they cannot exceed $10,000 total. They can be repaid over a ten year period. For more information, contact your school's Financial Aid office.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services also provides other financial assistance for some students in health professions programs. Ask for information at the Financial Aid office of the school you plan to attend, or write:

Health Resources and Services
Administration
Bureau of Health Professions
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Loans

In Montana, Native American students can apply for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Tribal Loans. To be eligible for a BIA or Tribal loan, you must be recognized as being American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut by the federal government and demonstrate financial need. For the address of each tribe's education specialist, see pages 32 and 33.

Short-Term Loans and Deferred Installments

Most Montana community colleges, four-year colleges and universities, and some private trade schools offer short-term loan programs or deferred fee installment programs. For more information, contact the Financial Aid office of the school you plan to attend.

Loan Consolidation

Eligible students with a minimum debt of at least $5,000, and who are not over 90 days delinquent, or in grace periods or currently repaying loans, may consolidate loans made under the FISL, GSL, SLS, HPSL, PLUS, and Perkins Loan programs. By consolidating loans, you can repay the loans with an adjusted schedule. Interest rates on consolidated loans are either the higher of the weighted average of the loans or 9%. An individual interested in consolidation should contact their lender or the Montana Higher Education Student Assistance Corporation, 33 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59620, (406)444-6597.

Work-Study

Work-study programs provide paying jobs for students. These jobs are usually on campus and sometimes related to students' career goals or fields of study.

The College Work-Study program provides jobs for undergraduate and graduate students who have financial need (as defined by the needs analysis form approved by the Federal government). These jobs are usually part-time, less than 20 hours per week.

To apply for work-study, fill out the financial aid application required by the school you plan to attend. Check with the school's Financial Aid office for more information.

Fee Waivers

Each unit of the Montana University System grants waivers of (1) registration and incidental fees and (2) some out-of-state fees, to a limited number of regularly enrolled undergraduate and graduate students who meet specific requirements. Fee waivers only cover some of the costs of attending a Montana University System school.

Fee waivers are granted on the basis of both financial need and academic achievement. Fee waivers may also be granted to the following categories of students: Native Americans; senior citizens; certain veterans; war orphans; dependents of prisoners of war; residents of Mountain View School, Pine Hills School, and similar public and private non-sectarian Montana charitable institutions; athletes; National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists; and recipients of High School Honor Scholarships and Community College Honor Scholarships.

For more information on fee waivers contact the Financial Aid office at any unit of the Montana University System (University of Montana, Montana State University, Northern Montana College, Western Montana College of the University of Montana, Eastern Montana College and Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology).

Scholarships

Scholarships are gift aid given for academic performance, skills, achievement, need, or other qualifications. Scholarship money comes from foundations, trusts, civic groups, businesses, professional associations, and other private and public sources.

There are thousands of scholarship programs in the United States. Some are granted on the basis of financial need while others are given on an academic (or non-need) basis. Depending on the type of scholarship you receive and your assessed financial need, a scholarship may change the amount of other financial aid you receive. Contact the Financial Aid office at the school you plan to attend to find out how scholarships may affect your award.

Many scholarship programs are administered by high schools or postsecondary schools, and should be applied for through the school. Other scholarships must be applied for directly through the scholarship source. When you contact scholarship sponsors, ask for an application form and information on eligibility requirements and deadlines. Remember to send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request for information. Do not send your transcript until you have received the above information.

For more information on scholarships see the Montana CIS publication *Financial Aid 1990-91*, which describes national and state scholarships in over thirty separate fields. Also see the Publications section of this handbook and check with your local library for other books and information about scholarships.

Some computerized scholarship search services offer to find scholarship sources for individuals for a fee. Before you spend money on these services find out how much and what type of information the service agrees to give you. Many scholarships listed in commercial search services can be researched for free through your local library's resources.

Some scholarship sources are listed below. While you are studying the qualifications you have for certain scholarships, consider your parents and, if applicable, your spouse. Their place of employment, club membership, heritage, or veteran status may qualify you for particular types of scholarships.

The sources listed below have information on scholarship programs. Many do not grant scholarships themselves.

Scholarship Sources

Athletic scholarships from a school

- Athletic department of the school.
- *The National Directory of College Athletics*, Ray Franks Publishing, Box 7068, Amarillo, Texas 79109. The Directory does not list specific sport scholarships. It does list coaches who may be contacted concerning athletic scholarships at their school.

Business and corporate scholarship programs

- Personnel Directors of local businesses and corporations.

Civic organizations and clubs

- Local Chamber of Commerce for a list of local groups and contacts (for example, Elks, Kiwanis, Soroptimists, Professional Women, Boy Scouts). There may be a charge for some Chamber of Commerce lists.

Colleges and universities

- Financial Aid Office.
- Campus Alumni Office.

Scholarship Sources (continued)

- The academic departments on campus that offer the programs of study you are interested in.

Ethnic group scholarships

- Local ethnic groups—contact your local Chamber of Commerce for names of groups and contact people.
- The *Encyclopedia of Associations*

Federal Government Scholarships
(for example, the Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship and the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship)

- High School Counselors or the Montana University System, c/o Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program, 33 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59620.

Montana scholarship foundations

- High school counselors and principals.
- Financial Aid Office at postsecondary schools.

National scholarship foundations

- Local library for directories of books (see page 31).

Native Americans

- Tribal Education Specialists (see page 32).
- Urban Indian Alliances. For a list of Alliance offices, write to: Montana United Indian Association, 436 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 2, Helena, MT 59620.
- Talent Search Coordinators (see page 25).

Professional and trade associations

- Local professionals.
- Local telephone yellow pages index under "Associations."
- Local Chamber of Commerce.
- Montana State Library—for a list of state professional associations.
- The *Encyclopedia of Associations*—for information on national associations.

Religious scholarship programs

- Local religious leaders.
- National headquarters of your religion.

Union scholarships

- The local, state and national headquarters for the union to which you (or your parents/spouse) belong.

Vocational-technical centers and private trade schools

- Financial Aid Office at the centers and schools

Women's scholarship programs

- National women's organizations
- Local women's center
- Displaced homemaker programs

Veterans' dependents and spouses

- Local post of the American Legion.
- *Need a Lift?* (see Publications).

Special Aid Programs

Special aid programs provide grants, allowances, special services such as career counseling, job preparation or job development assistance and financial aid counseling. These programs serve specific groups of people such as military veterans, and dislocated or rural workers. Most special aid programs are government funded. Federal or state funding cuts can change the services of these programs at any time. Contact the program director of the specific program you are interested in for more specific information.

The following charts list Special Aid Programs, eligibility requirements, and a contact person.

Montana Social Service Aid Programs

Program	Type of Aid	Eligibility Requirements	Contact
Job Corps	• Free training • Room and board • Free medical, dental and social services while at training	• U.S. permanent resident • Between ages of 16 and 22 • Able to benefit from and complete JC training	Joe Hueth Job Corps Recruiting (406)727-5393 1-800-544-5627
Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA)	• Career counseling • Pre-employment skill training • Retraining funds	• Persons certified as economically disadvantaged by a JTPA service provider	Tom Hayes Montana Job Training Partnership, Inc. (406)444-1330
Project Challenge	• Career counseling • Job development • Literacy training • Funds for retraining	• Dislocated workers • Displaced homemakers • Dislocated workers with different disabilities	Jack Zink Box 1176 Helena, MT 59624 (406)442-1708
Rural Employment Opportunities	• Career counseling • Job development • Job preparation classes	• Low-income persons with at least 25 days or $400 of work within 12 months over the past two years on a ranch or farm	Luther Robison P.O. Box 831 Helena, MT 59624 (406)442-7850
Veterans Benefits	• Financial aid for veterans enrolled in VA-approved schools	• Veterans of U.S. military & dependents of disabled or deceased veterans	Veterans Administration Regional Office 1-800-332-6125
Vocational Rehabilitation	• Career counseling • Job training • Job preparation • Job modification equipment	• Persons with employment handicap • Take diagnostic test	Rehabilitative/Visual Services Division, Dept. of Social & Rehabilitation Services (406)444-2590

Other Montana Aid Programs

Program	Type of Aid	Eligibility Requirements	Contact
Educational Talent Search	• Career, secondary and postsecondary enrollment counseling and information	• First generation student • Meet income guidelines	Rene' Dubay ETS Director (406) 444-6565
Veterans Health Professional Scholarship	• Scholarships	• Persons in nursing or physical therapy program • Graduate or undergraduate in 3rd or 4th year	Bonnie Anderson Personnel Office Ft. Harrison, MT (406) 442-6410 ext. 352
Vocational Rehabilitation	• Diagnosis and treatment • Job training & placement • Transportation • Job modification assistance	• Persons with handicap due to mental or physical disability • Take diagnostic test	Rehabilitative/Visual Services Division, Dept. of Social & Rehabilitation Services (406) 444-2590
WAMI Medical Program	• Aid to complete one year of medical school at MSU	• Montana resident • Completed undergrad degree • Completed pre-medicine requirements	Stephen Guggenheim MSU Bozeman, MT (406) 994-4411
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)	• Aid to enroll in 8 out-of-state professional programs not offered in Montana	• Montana resident • Graduate or undergraduate • Admitted to out-of-state professional program not offered in MT	Pat Admire WICHE Officer (406) 444-6570, or WICHE P.O. Drawer P Boulder, CO 80301

Common Questions about Financial Aid

Q. I don't have much money. Should I choose only colleges with low tuition costs?

A. No. Choose schools that will best meet your educational and vocational goals. Schools with high tuition often give more financial aid.

Q. What does "financial need" mean?

A "Need" is the difference between what it costs to attend a particular school, and the amount you and your family can afford to pay toward those costs, as determined by a federal formula. Schools may cover part or all of your need with financial aid.

Q. When should I apply for financial aid?

A. You need to request information about financial aid when you apply for admission. You begin the admission process one year before you plan to enter school. At each school where you apply, ask the Financial Aid office which need analysis form they use. All the need analysis services require the form to be sent as soon after January 1 as possible (but do not send before January 1). Be sure to sign and date the need analysis form January 1 or later.

Q. What if I don't have information from my 1990 federal tax return by January 1? Should I wait?

A. No. If you have not yet completed the 1990 federal tax return, you may estimate your tax information in order to submit the application in early January. However, you may need to revise your estimates later. Check with the Financial Aid office of the school you plan to attend about the need to file a revision. If you estimate the 1990 information, base it on your own and your family's 1989 tax return unless the income has changed substantially.

Q. How can I tell if I am a "dependent" or an "independent" student?

A. A "dependent" student is any student who is under 24 years of age by December 31 of the year for which he or she is seeking aid, and who does not meet one or more of the independent student criteria.

If you meet one or more of the following criteria, you are an "independent" student: (a) have attained the age of 24 by December 31 of the award year; (b) are an orphan, a ward of the court, or a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces; (c) are a graduate, professional, or married student who will not be claimed by any other person as a dependent on the 1990 federal income tax return; (d) have legal dependents other than a spouse; (e) are a single undergraduate student not claimed by another as a dependent for income tax purposes for three (or in some cases four) prior years; (f) have annual resources of at least $4,000 for the two years prior to the first year that federal student financial aid is received; (g) are documented by your Financial Aid office as having special circumstances.

Q. Is my financial information confidential?

A. Yes. The information you, your spouse, or your family put on any financial aid form and your tax forms is strictly confidential. It is used only to establish eligibility for financial aid.

Q. Who decides whether I will get financial aid?

A. Actually, each school decides. For federal financial aid, schools use a formula legislated by Congress each year. This formula applies to all applicants and uses the information you put on your financial aid application. Costs and amount of aid funds are different at each school, so each one may offer you a different aid package. The only exception to this is the amount of a Pell Grant, which is determined by the federal government, based on the cost of attendance at the school you attend and your enrollment status (e.g. half-time).

Q. What does it cost to apply for financial aid?

A. The schools do not charge a fee for processing your financial aid application, but some agencies that provide financial need analyses do charge. Fees range from $5.50 to $10.75, with extra charges for each additional copy.

AFSA: Free.
FAF: $8.75 plus $6.75 for each additional copy.
FFS: $5.50 plus $3.50 or $3.00 for each additional copy.
SFF: Free.

Be sure to check with the school you plan to attend to see which form it requires.

Q. What happens after I send in the financial aid application?

A. 1. The need analysis processor will send you two types of forms in one envelope: (a) an acknowledgment form listing the schools where they sent information based upon the requests on your application; and (b) a Student Aid Report (SAR) which will have an index number on it. This number is not a dollar amount, but indicates how your need compares with other applicants' needs. If the index number is below 2300, you are likely to receive a Pell Grant. When you receive the SAR, you should take or send parts one through three to the Financial Aid office at the school you will attend.

The Financial Aid offices at the schools you listed will contact you after studying your application. They will tell you if you are eligible for financial aid and the amounts and types of aid they can offer you. Most students who receive an award get a combination of grants, loans, and work-study put together in a financial aid package. (This includes aid from federal and state sources.) If the school requests additional information, respond immediately.

Q. Do I have to reapply for financial aid each year?

A. Yes, you must reapply for all aid programs each year. The deadlines may differ for reapplication, so be sure to check with the Financial Aid office at your school.

If you need more help, the Federal Student Aid Information Center can answer questions about federal aid programs. Call 1-800-333-INFO between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Eastern time.

Questions to Ask the Financial Aid Counselors at the Schools You Are Considering

1. Do I need to be admitted to the school before I can be offered financial aid?
2. What private grants and scholarships can I apply for at this school?
3. If your financial situation has changed a great deal from last year, ask how you can show that when you apply.
4. What is the deadline for applying for financial aid?
5. What if my family cannot pay the estimated family contribution?
6. When will the school let me know if I will receive financial aid?
7. Whom should I contact if I have questions later?

Glossary of Financial Aid Terms

academic year
The period of time in which a full-time student must complete: (a) the equivalent of 2 semesters, 2 trimesters, or 3 quarters at a school that uses credit hours; (b) at least 24 semester hours or 36 quarter hours at a school that uses credit hours, but does not use a semester, trimester or quarter system; or (c) at least 900 clock hours at a school that uses clock hours.

Anti-Abuse Act Certification
A statement a student must sign prior to receiving a Pell Grant. By signing you agree not to engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance during the period covered by the Pell Grant. If a student is convicted of drug distribution or possession, the court may suspend his or her eligibility for federally-funded financial aid.

Application for Federal Student Aid (AFSA)
A free financial aid application form provided by the Department of Education. The completed application is used to determine Pell Grant eligibility and expected family contribution.

assets
Financial holdings such as cash on hand in savings and checking accounts, trusts, stocks, bonds, money market funds, mutual funds, home (if owned), other real estate, business equipment, business inventory, and so forth. Cars, stamp collections, or musical instruments are not counted as assets.

award letter
The document a school uses to notify students about the financial aid they are eligible to receive. The award letter usually gives information on the types and amounts of aid offered, and gives you the opportunity to accept or decline the aid.

award year
The year running between July 1 of one year and June 30 of the following year when the financial aid will be received.

budget
The estimated cost of attendance at a school. It usually includes tuition and fees, books and supplies, room and board, personal expenses, and transportation. Other expenses may be included at the discretion of the school.

cancellation of loan
The condition that exists when a borrower meets certain conditions so that all or part of a loan need not be repaid.

clock hour
The equivalent of *either* a 50- to 60-minute class, lecture, or recitation OR a faculty-supervised laboratory, shop training, or internship.

college work study program
A federally-funded part-time employment program for undergraduate and graduate students. Eligibility is based on financial need, and the earnings help students meet a portion of their educational expenses.

cost of attendance
The total amount that it will cost to attend school for one academic year. Generally the cost of attendance includes tuition and fees, on-campus room and board (or a housing and food allowance if you live off-campus), books and supplies, transportation, child care, costs related to a disability, and miscellaneous personal expenses. The school determines these amounts based on the cost of living for the area and the costs associated with attending their school (tuition, etc.).

credit bureau
A company that compiles and distributes credit information about people to lenders. This information may include a person's payment habits, number of credit accounts (including loans),

balance of those accounts, and employment information.

credit hour
A unit used to measure the amount of school work a student is enrolled in, or has completed. In a credit hour system, each course is assigned a specific number of credit hours. This number is usually based on the number of classroom periods per week throughout a school semester, trimester, or quarter.

default
The failure of a borrower to repay a loan according to the terms agreed upon in the promissory note.

deferment of loan
A period during which repayment of a loan is suspended because the borrower has met one of a number of conditions. For example, borrowers do not need to make loan payments on certain kinds of financial aid loans while they are in school, in the Peace Corps, or in the U.S. Armed Forces. In some cases, interest does not accrue during the deferment period.

delinquency
The failure of a borrower to make a loan payment when it is due.

dependent student
A student who is still under 24 years of age by December 31 of the year for which he or she is seeking aid, AND who does not meet one or more of the "Independent Student" criteria. See Independent Student.

disclosure statement
The borrower receives this statement from the lender at, or prior to, the time the loan is disbursed, and again, as the repayment period approaches. The disclosure statement provides information about the actual cost of the loan, which includes the interest rate and any additional finance charges. It also includes information about the length of the grace period (if any), the maximum length of repayment and the minimum annual repayment, any deferment conditions, and the definition of default.

dislocated worker
The term generally refers to a worker who (a) has been terminated or laid off from work, (b) has been terminated or laid off from a plant or other facility that has been permanently closed or will close soon, OR (c) who was self-employed but is now unemployed because of poor economic conditions in the community or a natural disaster (farmers are included).

displaced homemaker
A person who meets *all* of the following descriptions: (a) has not worked in the labor force for a number of years while providing unpaid services for family members; (b) has depended on public assistance or on income from another family member, but is no longer receiving this support, or who is receiving public assistance because of dependent children in the home; AND (c) is unemployed or underemployed and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.

emergency loan
A loan provided by a school to cover unexpected expenses. Often this is a short-term loan which is processed quickly.

endorser
A person who is secondarily liable for a loan obligation.

exit interview
An information session for student-borrowers that is held before they transfer, leave, or graduate from a school. The session is provided by the school's Financial Aid office. Information includes the repayment schedule, projecting average monthly repayments, and a review of the options for repayment and management of debt.

family contribution
The amount a student and his or her family are expected to pay toward the cost of attendance. It is calculated from the financial information provided by the student and his or her family, including the student's spouse.

fellowship
Usually, a cash or stipend award for graduate or professional students based on academic

achievement or potential success in their field. Fellowships also may include a waiver of tuition costs.

financial aid package
An award by an educational institution of one or more forms of financial aid such as loans, grants, scholarships, and work-study. These funds are combined to produce a "package" to meet a student's financial need.

financial aid transcript
A form used by postsecondary schools to collect data about all financial aid awards given the student at other postsecondary schools.

financial need
The difference between the cost of attendance and your family contribution. See Expected Family Contribution.

grace period
The period of time from the date a loan borrower is no longer enrolled in school at least half-time, to the date loan repayment is scheduled to begin. You do not need to pay the loan principal, and interest does not accrue during the grace period.

graduate or professional student
A person enrolled in an academic program of study above the bachelor's degree level at a school of higher education.

grant
A form of financial aid that does not have to be repaid or earned through employment.

guarantee agency
A state agency or private, non-profit organization that administers student loan insurance programs.

independent student
An independent student is a person who meets one or more of the following criteria: (a) be age 24 years or older by December 31 of the award year; (b) be an orphan or a ward of the court; (c) be a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces; (d) have legal dependents other than a spouse (for example, dependent children or an elderly dependent parent); (e) be a married, or graduate, or professional student who will not be claimed as an income tax exemption by his or her parents or guardian for the first calendar year of the award year (for example, 1990 is the first calendar year for the award year 1990-91); (f) be a single undergraduate student with no dependents, who was not claimed by his or her parents or guardian for the two calendar years preceding the award year, and who demonstrates total self-sufficiency as shown by an annual total income of at least $4,000 in each of those years. A student may also be determined to be an independent student by presenting documentation of other unusual circumstances demonstrating independence to the Financial Aid Administrator.

loan
An advance of funds which the borrower must repay under specified conditions.

need analysis
A process used to determine how much financial assistance a student applicant needs to help meet his or her cost of attendance.

promissory note
The legal document a person signs when he or she receives a loan. It lists the conditions under which the loan is made and the terms under which the borrower agrees to pay back the loan.

regular student
A student who is enrolled (or accepted for enrollment) in a postsecondary school to earn a degree or certificate.

satisfactory progress
A satisfactory rate of completing courses or other activities to fulfill a specified educational objective. Students must meet their school's written standard of satisfactory academic progress in order to receive federally funded financial aid.

scholarship
A form of financial aid which does not have to be repaid or earned through employment. Scholarships may require academic proficiency, demonstrated financial need or both.

student contribution
The amount the student is expected to pay toward his or her educational costs. This figure is based on an analysis of the student's income and assets.

taxable income
Income earned from wages, salaries, tips, and interest income, dividends, alimony, estate or trust income, business or farm profits, and rental or property income. These types of income are usually reported on an IRS tax form.

undergraduate student
A student who has not received a bachelor's or first professional degree.

unmet need
The difference between a student's total available resources (including the expected family contribution), and the total cost of their attendance at a specific school.

verification
The process of confirming that information submitted on a financial aid application is correct.

Publications about Financial Aid

The A's and B's of Academic Scholarships.
Priscilla Goeller. A guide to honors programs, honors colleges, and scholarships based on academic excellence. Octameron Associates, P.O. Box 3437, Alexandria, VA 22302. $6.25.

Chronicle Student Aid Annual.
Chronicle Guidance Publications, P.O. Box 1190, Moravia, NY 13118. $21.95.

Chronicle Vocational School Manual.
Admissions, costs, job training, financial aid, and student services for 4,100 vocational schools. Chronicle Guidance Publications, P.O. Box 1190, Moravia, NY 13118. $18.15.

The College Cost Book.
College Board Publications, P.O. Box 886, New York, NY 10101. $13.95 prepaid (item #003381). Also available in combination with College Handbook and Index of Majors. Combination price is $29.95 (item #239335).

Don't Miss Out: The Ambitious Student's Guide to Financial Aid.
Anna and Robert Leider. A complete guide to available financial aid. Octameron Associates, P.O. Box 3437, Alexandria, VA 22302. $6.25.

Financial Aids for Higher Education.
Oreon Keeslar. William C. Brown Company, 2460 Kerper Blvd., Dubuque, IA 52001. $36.80 (ISBN #069707633-4).

Foundation Grants to Individuals.
Foundation Center, 79 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003. $24.00.

Meeting College Costs.
Explains how the College Board determines a family's contribution to college costs. College Board Publications, Box 886, New York, NY 10101. Free. (Enclose a business envelope, self-addressed and stamped.)

Need a Lift?
Description of financial aid programs including programs for veterans and military dependents. American Legion, National Emblem Sales, P.O. Box 1050, Indianapolis, IN 46206. $1.00 prepaid. (Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.)

The Student Guide.
An explanation of the major federal aid programs. Department of Education, P.O. Box 84, Washington, D.C. 20044. Available after January 1. Free.

The 1990 College Money Handbook.
Peterson's Guides, P.O. Box 2123, Princeton, NJ 08543. $18.95 (stock #8888).

Montana Financial Aid Directors and Tribal Education Specialists

Billings Vo-Tech Center
Jack Holzer
Billings, MT 59102
255-3801

Blackfeet Community College
Judy LaPlant
Browning, MT 59417
338-5411

Blackfeet Tribe
Harold Dusty Bull
Blackfeet Education Specialist
Box 850
Browning, MT 59417
338-7538

Bureau of Indian Affairs
LaVonne French,
Crow Tribe Education Specialist
Higher Education Department Area Office
316 North 26th Street
Billings, MT 59101
657-6375

Butte Vo-Tech Center
Mike Richardson
Butte, MT 59701
494-2894

Carroll College
Arthur Hunthausen
Helena, MT 59625
442-3450

College of Great Falls
Mandi Burch
Great Falls, MT 59405
761-8210 or 1-800-484-3431, ext. 230

Crow Indian Agency
Garnet Watan
BIA Education Specialist
Crow Agency, MT 59022
638-4432 ext. 53

Dawson Community College
Paul Fasting
Glendive, MT 59330
365-3396

Dull Knife Memorial College
Zane Spang
Lame Deer, MT 59043
477-6215

Eastern Montana College
Melina Hawkins
Billings, MT 59101
657-2188

Flathead Valley Community College
Mary Fetter
777 Grandview Dr.
Kalispell, MT 59901
756-3849

Flathead Education Specialist
Sharon Decker
Salish Kootenai College
Box 117
Pablo, MT 59855
675-4800

Fort Belknap College
Gerald Little Owl
Harlem, MT 59526
353-2205

Fort Belknap Education Specialist,
R.R. 1 Box 66
Harlem, MT 59526
353-2205 (ext. 404)

Fort Peck Community College
Linda Turcotte
Poplar, MT 59255
768-5155

Fort Peck Reservation
Linda Turcotte
Fort Peck Education Specialist
Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255
768-5155

Great Falls Vo-Tech Center
Lynn Jacobs
Great Falls, MT 59405
771-7140

Helena Vo-Tech Center
Sandy Merdinger
Helena, MT 59601
444-6800

Little Big Horn College
Charitina Fritzler
Crow Agency, MT 59022
638-2228

Miles Community College
Dale Oberlander
Miles City, MT 59301
232-3031

Missoula Vo-Tech Center
Dan Burke
Missoula, MT 59801
542-6885

Montana College of Mineral Science & Technology
Frank J. Kondelis
Butte, MT 59701
496-4212

Montana State University
James R. Craig
Bozeman, MT 59717
994-2845

Mountain States Baptist College
Dr. Richard Dion
Great Falls, MT 59401
761-3654

Northern Cheyenne Education Specialist
Norma Bixby
c/o Career Development
P.O. Box 307
Lame Deer, MT 59043
477-6643 or 477-6770

Northern Montana College
Steven Jamruszka
Havre, MT 59501
265-3700 ext. 3787

Rocky Boy Education Specialist
Frances Topsky
Rocky Boy Route, Box 1082
Box Elder, MT 59521
395-4269

Rocky Mountain College
Mary Nash
Billings, MT 59102
657-1031

Salish Kootenai College
Randy Morigeau
Pablo, MT 59855
675-4800

Stone Child Community College
Joe Lafrombroise
Box Elder, MT 59521
395-4269

University of Montana
Myron L. Hanson
Missoula, MT 59812
243-5373

Western Montana College
Paul Tikalsky
Dillon, MT 59725
683-7511

Yellowstone Baptist College
Dr. Bill Barton
Billings, MT 59106
656-9950

Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program

The Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program (MGSLP) was established in 1979 by the Montana State Legislature. The agency's main duty is to administer the federal student loan program in Montana. MGSLP works directly with lenders and postsecondary institutions to provide low interest loans to Montana students and their parents. There are approximately 190 lenders and 40 schools in Montana which participate in the program.

The goal of the program is to make postsecondary education available to every Montana student who desires it. To date the agency has guaranteed over 200 million dollars in loans to Montana students.

Montana Career Information System

The Montana Career Information System (CIS) supplies occupational and educational information to people who need it.

Reliable information is an essential component of the decision-making process, whether you are an adult considering a career change or a young person considering a future career. Montana CIS is up-to-date, easy to use, and has the most complete information available about Montana.

Montana CIS can tell you about:

- Occupations
- Programs of Study and Training
- Scholarships
- National Postsecondary Schools

Many high schools, colleges, Job Service offices and other agencies provide Montana CIS for their students and clients. Ask your local principal, office manager or counselor about using Montana CIS.

For more information call or write:

Montana Career Information System
1412½ Eighth Avenue
Helena, MT 59620
(406)444-1444